

**REMARKS**

Claims 18-34 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 28 is amended. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested

**I. Claim Objections**

Claim 28 is objected to because of informalities. Claim 28 has been amended to change "nct(b<sub>bin</sub>)" to "nct(b<sub>n+1</sub>).". Withdrawal of the objection to claim 28 is respectfully requested.

**II. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:OHC/scg

Date: December 20, 2006

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